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18 December 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: NRO

If it is agreed that the two primary objectives are to maintain CIA as a significant participant in overhead reconnaissance and at the same time eliminate the DNRO's command authority over CIA's discharge of its overhead reconnaissance responsibilities, the following is suggested:

That in lieu of a series of amendments to the present 13 March 1963 NRO agreement there be a policy declaration issued by the Secretary of Defense to the DNRO stating categorically that CIA will be assigned responsibility for significant programs in the reconnaissance field, both for satellite reconnaissance and for manned aircraft reconnaissance, which will include in the satellite reconnaissance field the development of payloads and their delivery, with appropriate technical interface to the National Launching Authority.

CIA's assigned responsibilities for reconnaissance will be discharged by CIA within the Agency's own

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command structure. DNRO will have no command authority over CIA's programs. DIA will exercise a coordinating role with respect to DOD and CIA reconnaissance programs and will accordingly be kept fully informed by CIA regarding its assigned programs.

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